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SPACE GHOST
DAVID PEPOSE
JONATHAN LAU

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MARQUES
J. BONE
Jaki Marques
DAVID PEPOSE
JONATHAN LAU

Across the vastness of space, evil flourishes in the darkness between stars. With territories spread far and wide across the Galactic Federation, pirates and hijackers have ransacked these distant colonies with cruel disregard for the innocent scientists living within them.

Yet there is a cosmic vigilante who metes out justice across the spaceways, bringing vengeance to those who prey upon the defenseless.

They call him the...

SPACE GHOST™

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SPECIAL THANKS TO JOSH ANDERSON AND VICTORIA SELOVER

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Six weeks ago.
YOUR GALACTIC PATROL RECORD WAS QUITE COMPELLING, PROFESSOR...
A BRILLIANT PHYSICIST, A LOVING FAMILY MAN...UNTIL THE FIRE CONSUMED EVERYTHING.
MY NAME IS DOCTOR XANDER IBAL--AND I BELIEVE WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER.
YOU HAVE A BURNING VENDETTA AGAINST CONTRA INDUSTRIES--WHILE MY PLANS REQUIRE LUCIDIUM CRYSTALS GROWN IN THEIR SECURE FACILITIES.
IF YOU WERE TO RETRIEVE THOSE CRYSTALS FOR US, ROBO CORP IS PREPARED TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL INVESTMENT...
AFTER ALL...WE'RE WELL AWARE OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF YOUR RESEARCH.
THEN YOU'D KNOW HOW BLIND THOSE FOOLS AT CONTRA REALLY WERE.
THEY STOLE MY FUNDING AND SHUT DOWN MY LAB--THEY SAID THAT I WAS OBSESSED...
I TRIED TO COMPLETE MY EXPERIMENTS AT HOME...
BUT MY GENERATORS COULDN'T HANDLE THE STRAIN.
SHNKK

THE FIRE MAY HAVE DESTROYED MY OLD LIFE...
...BUT IT SHOWED ME WHO MY TRUE FAMILY REALLY IS.
YOU'LL GET YOUR LUCIDIUM, DOCTOR IBAL--MY MOLTEN MEN WILL SEE TO THAT.
AND I'LL WATCH AS CONTRA INDUSTRIES BURNS TO THE GROUND...
TURNED TO ASH BEFORE THE GENIUS OF MOLTAR!

NOW.
Dear Journal...
I think there's something WRONG with me.
YOU'VE THREATENED ENOUGH PEOPLE WITH YOUR CRIME SPREE, MOLTAR...
BUT I PROMISE YOU--
--THIS ENDS NOW!
FROOOOOOSH
~~I think there's something WRONG with me.~~
I think there's something BROKEN inside of me.

It's been six weeks since Grax-3, and Space Ghost and Jan are back to BUSINESS AS USUAL...
But I can't stop thinking about what happened with ZORAK.
I keep telling myself that he was a MONSTER who was about to destroy the GALAXY...
Yet whenever I close my eyes...all I can see is his FACE.
Jan told me I should write out my feelings in a journal--but she doesn't understand...
There's a REASON I quit the team...
Because the GUILT was eating me alive.

Ever since I hung up my jetpack, Space Ghost and I haven't SPOKEN much.
YOUR MOLTEN MEN DON'T LAST LONG IN SUB-ZERO TEMPERATURES, MOLTAR...
All I can tell you is that he's ANGRY...
Like, angry even for HIM.
NOW DROP THE FLAMETHROWER BEFORE I MAKE YOU EAT IT.
FROOOOSH
SAVE YOUR MINDLESS THREATS FOR SOMEONE WHO CARES, SPACE GHOST...
FRAKOOOOM
YOU'RE ABOUT TO HAVE BIGGER FISH TO FRY!
NO-- THAT OFFICE BUILDING!

It doesn't take a genius to see Space Ghost is DISAPPOINTED in me...and I don't blame him.
JAN, YOU AND BLIP HANDLE THE BYSTANDERS...
...I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE STRUCTURE!

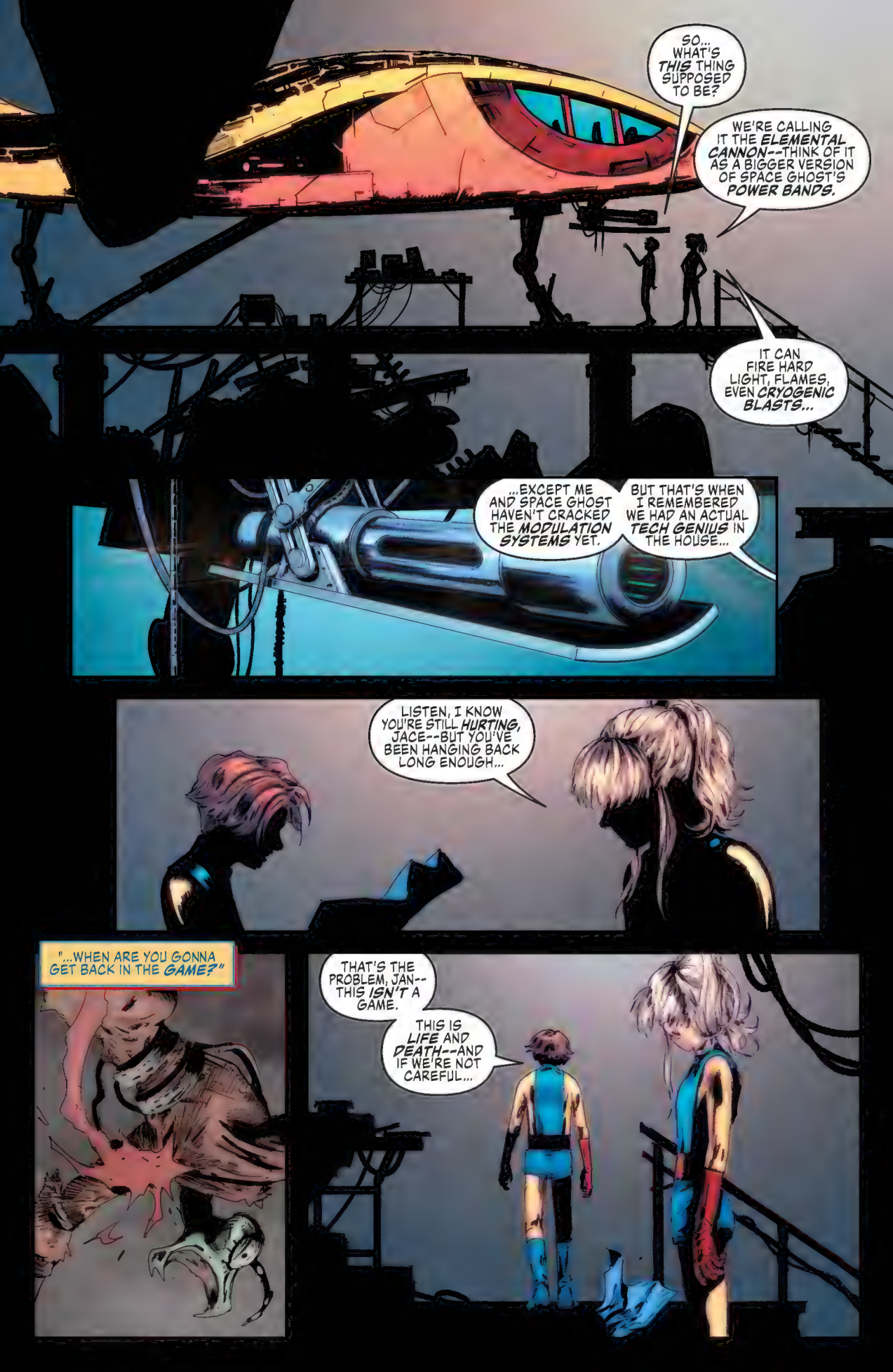
C'MON, BLIP--WE BETTER MOVE FAST...
NOBODY DIES TODAY--NOT ON OUR WATCH!

I should consider myself lucky that he didn't cut us LOOSE after everything that happened...
BLAST YOU, MOLTAR...

After I ~~killed~~
After what I did to ZORAK.

My dad always used to tell me I was smart enough to fix ANYTHING...
LISTEN, SPACE GHOST-- I...
JACE...
MAYBE YOU SHOULD SIT THIS ONE OUT.
I just wish he could tell me how to fix THIS.
S-SURE THING, SPACE GHOST...
DON'T EVEN WORRY ABOUT IT.
OH, JACE...
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM LIKE THIS BEFORE-- AND SPACE GHOST IS ONLY MAKING THINGS WORSE.
IT'S UP TO YOU AND ME NOW, BLIP...

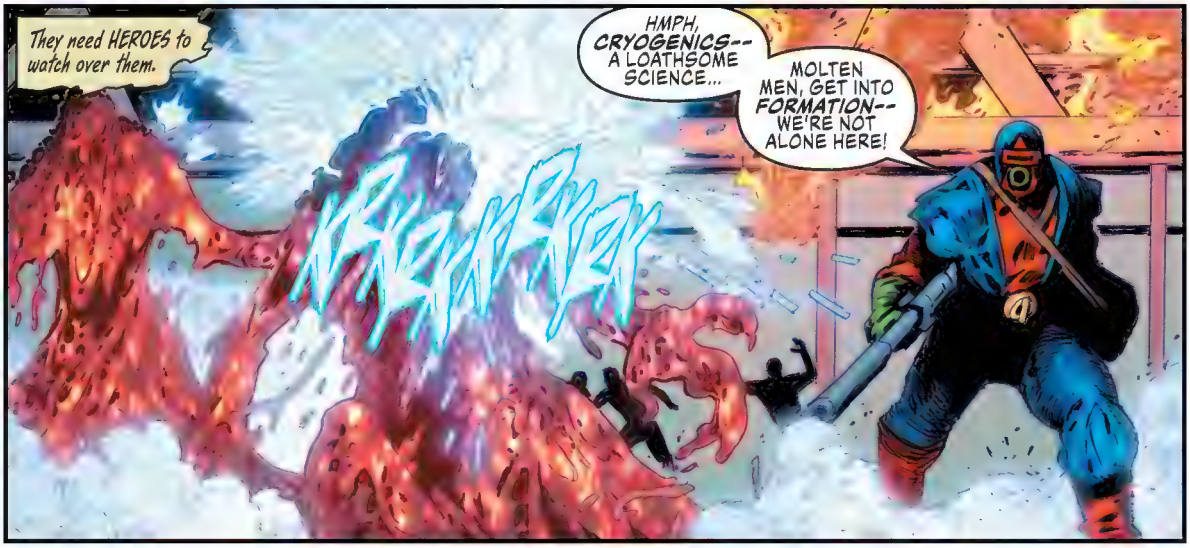
"IF WE WANT JACE TO BOUNCE BACK...WE NEED TO FIND HIM A PROJECT."
OOOOO--BEWARE, EVILDOERS!
I AM SPAAAACE GHOSSSST--AND I HAVE BEEN SHRUNK IN THE WASH!
BOY, THINGS MUST REALLY BE WORSE THAN I THOUGHT, JAN...
...IF YOU'VE BEEN PROMOTED TO COMIC RELIEF.
CAN YOU BLAME ME? YOU HAVEN'T EXACTLY BEEN A BARREL OF LAUGHS LATELY...
...THE WAY YOU'VE BEEN COOPING YOURSELF UP THESE DAYS...
EVEN BLIP'S BEEN WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU.
SKREEE?
FINE--IF A SENSE OF HUMOR WON'T BRING YOU OUT OF THE DUMPS, JACE...
THEN I'VE GOT SOMETHING ELSE THAT JUST MIGHT DO THE TRICK!


SO... WHAT'S *THIS* THING SUPPOSED TO BE?
WE'RE CALLING IT THE *ELEMENTAL CANNON*--THINK OF IT AS A BIGGER VERSION OF SPACE GHOST'S *POWER BANDS*.
IT CAN FIRE HARD LIGHT, FLAMES, EVEN *CRYOGENIC BLASTS*...
...EXCEPT ME AND SPACE GHOST HAVEN'T CRACKED THE *MODULATION SYSTEMS* YET.
BUT THAT'S WHEN I REMEMBERED WE HAD AN ACTUAL *TECH GENIUS* IN THE HOUSE...
LISTEN, I KNOW YOU'RE STILL *HURTING*, JACE--BUT YOU'VE BEEN HANGING BACK LONG ENOUGH...
"...WHEN ARE YOU GONNA GET BACK IN THE *GAME*?"
THAT'S THE PROBLEM, JAN--THIS *ISN'T* A GAME.
THIS IS *LIFE* AND *DEATH*--AND IF WE'RE NOT CAREFUL...

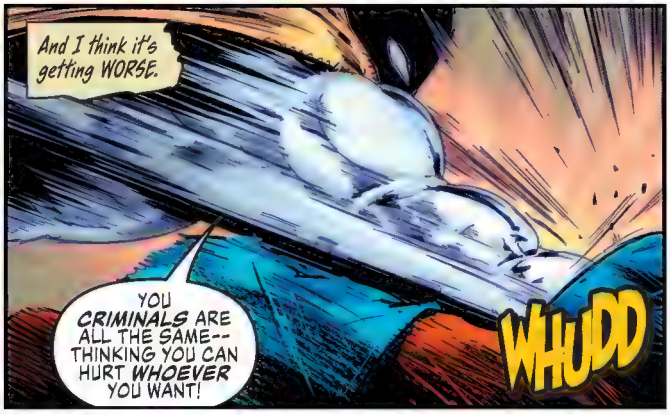
"...THEN THERE'S NO TELLING WHO MIGHT HAVE TO PAY THE CONSEQUENCES."
THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE, MOLTAR...
...YOU WERE MEANT TO RETRIEVE MY LUCIDIUM CRYSTALS--NOT ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF SPACE GHOST!
KLK
CALM YOURSELF, IBAL--I THOUGHT YOU OF ALL PEOPLE WOULD UNDERSTAND...
TESTING ONE'S HYPOTHESIS IS CRUCIAL TO THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND... WHAT HYPOTHESIS?
PLEASE, DON'T INSULT MY INTELLIGENCE-- SPACE GHOST ALWAYS SEEMS TO TURN UP WHENEVER ROBO CORP IS INVOLVED...
WHICH IS WHY I TOOK THE PRECAUTION OF CALCULATING THE MELTING TEMPERATURES OF HIS FORCE FIELDS.
CONSIDER THIS A PROFESSIONAL COURTESY FROM ONE SCIENTIST TO ANOTHER...
"ONCE I UNLEASH MY LATEST INVENTION...YOUR SPACE GHOST PROBLEM WILL SOON BECOME PAST TENSE."

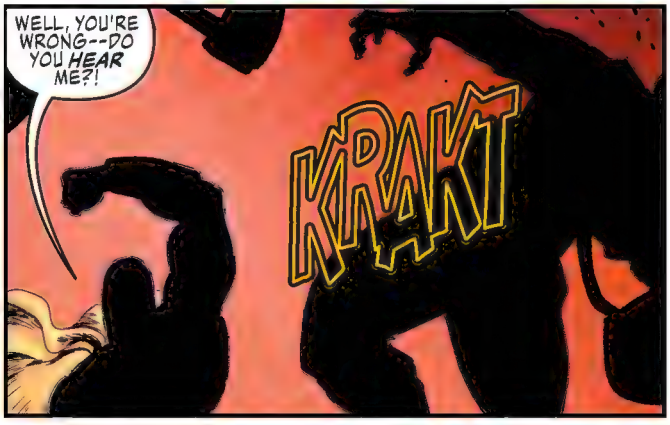
GREETINGS-- WELCOME TO CONTRA INDUSTRIES...
AH, EXCUSE ME, SIR... DO YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT?
OH, I THINK YOU'RE FULLY AWARE OF WHO I AM, MISS...
NOW DIRECT ME TO YOUR LUCIDIUM LABS...OR I CAN INCINERATE YOU ON THE SPOT.
I'M SORRY, SIR...BUT OUR FRIENDS AT THE GALACTIC PATROL ARE GOING TO HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT.
KIK
CHAK
CH-CHAK
VERY WELL, THEN... THE HARD WAY IT IS.
I SUPPOSE I SHOULD BE THANKING YOU, MISS--I'D BEEN HOPING TO APPLY MY SEISMIC RESONATOR IN THE FIELD...
...BUT I FIND IT'S ALWAYS BEST TO WORK WITH LIVE TEST SUBJECTS.

The sirens SCREAM as the smoke pours from Contra Industries--MOLTAR has struck again...
So why do I feel so BAD about staying behind on the ship?
WE'RE NEARLY AT THE DROP POINT, JAN--GET READY TO JUMP.
YOU GONNA BE OKAY MANNING THE FORT, JACE?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, JAN...I'LL BE HERE WHEN YOU GET BACK.
Watching them dive into the action makes me feel like I'm TWO FEET TALL.
But the people down there don't need LIABILITIES like me...


They need HEROES to watch over them.
HMPH, CRYOGENICS-- A LOATHSOME SCIENCE...
MOLTEN MEN, GET INTO FORMATION-- WE'RE NOT ALONE HERE!
KRAKKER

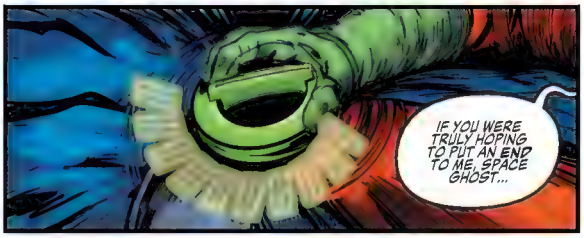
But something's been WRONG with Space Ghost ever since Grax-3...
YOU'VE MADE A BIG MISTAKE, MOLTAR!


And I think it's getting WORSE.
YOU CRIMINALS ARE ALL THE SAME-- THINKING YOU CAN HURT WHOEVER YOU WANT!
WHUDD

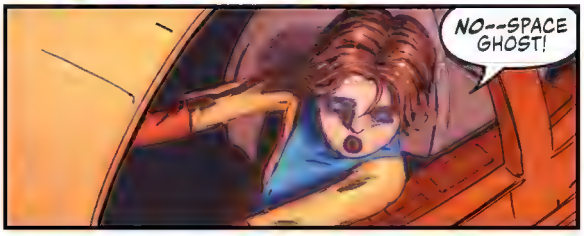

WELL, YOU'RE WRONG--DO YOU HEAR ME?!
KRAKT

I WON'T LET YOU HURT ANYONE ELSE AGAIN!
SPLAKK

Because if Space Ghost and Jan are always looking out for the LITTLE GUY...
...then who's looking out for THEM?
HAHAHAHAHA...
WHAT'S SO FUNNY, CREEP?


IF YOU WERE TRULY HOPING TO PUT AN END TO ME, SPACE GHOST...

YOU SHOULD HAVE DESTROYED MY SEISMIC RESONATOR FIRST!
NNF--!
KRAKOOOM


NO--SPACE GHOST!

FROOOOOSH
FROOOOOSH
FROOOOOSH
YOU SELF-RIGHTEOUS HEROES HAVE INTERFERED WITH MY PLANS FOR THE LAST TIME...
NOW YOU SUFFER THE WRATH OF THE PLANET'S MOLTEN CORE!

Every time I think about going back out there, the FEAR hits me like a tidal wave...
QUICKLY, BLIP--GET INSIDE SPACE GHOST'S FORCE FIELD!
After what I did to Zorak...can I afford to take the RISK?
NO...
But knowing that MY FAMILY is out there... can I afford NOT to?
HNNN--IT'S MAGNIFICENT...
LOOK AT ALL THOSE BEAUTIFUL FLAMES...
All this time, I've thought something was BROKEN inside of me.
COME ON, COME ON, COME ON...
Only it turns out Jan was RIGHT--I've been holding back LONG ENOUGH...
KRAK
KRAKT
KRK
:KAFF:--- H-HEAT'S TOO STRONG...C-CAN'T BREATHE...

Now it's time to start picking up the PIECES.
SHRAKOWWWWWW
JAN-- IF YOU CAN HEAR ME...
HIT THE DECK!
KRAKKRAKKRAKKRAK
NNF-- JAN...WHAT HAPPENED?
SPACE GHOST, LOOK--UP IN THE SKY!
HA--YOU BIG DUMMY...
I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT.

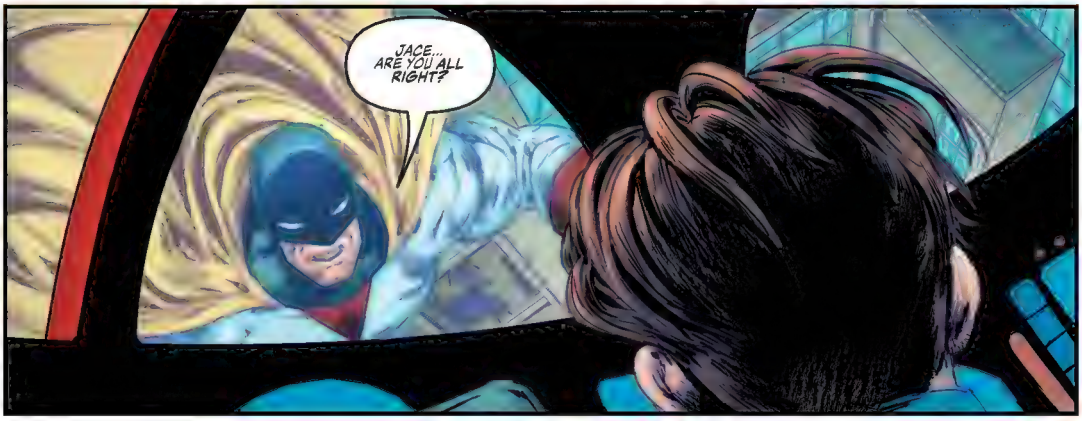
SORRY I'M CUTTING IT SO CLOSE, GANG...
...TURNS OUT MOLTAR'S DEVELOPED A SUDDEN CASE OF COLD FEET!

JACE-- YOU GOT THE ELEMENTAL CANNON RUNNING!
YEAH... THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU BRING IT TO THE EXPERT.

N-NO...NOT MY MOLTEN MEN...
HNNG... YOU F-FOOLISH HEROES--YOU'VE RUINED MY PLANS... DESTROYED MY FAMILY...
FROOOOOSH
YOU MAY HAVE DEFEATED ME, SPACE GHOST...
FRAKOOOOOM
LET'S SEE HOW YOU ENJOY THE TASTE OF PAYBACK!
NOOOOOO!

My dad always used to tell me that I was smart enough to fix ANYTHING.
But now I realize there are some things that can't ever be FIXED.
All I can do is try to live with my MISTAKES-- to be there for the people that LOVE me...
...and if there's a PRICE that still needs paying...
I'm ready to get what I DESERVE.

I'm ready to get what I deserve.
I'VE GOT YOU!


JACE... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

:SNIFF:--I-I'M SORRY...I DIDN'T MEAN TO SCREW UP AGAIN...
I-I JUST COULDN'T LET YOU GET HURT.
AH, KID...YOU REALLY DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
YOU DIDN'T SCREW ANYTHING UP... I DID.
IT WAS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT YOU FROM ZORAK...AND I FAILED.
WHAT THAT MANIAC FORCED YOU TO DO. ...I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO FACE YOU.
I'VE NEVER BEEN GOOD AT DEALING WITH PEOPLE, JACE...
BUT I SWEAR TO YOU...I'LL ALWAYS BE THERE WHEN YOU NEED ME.
I JUST HOPE THAT SOMEDAY YOU CAN FORGIVE--
NNF!
WHUMP

SO...ARE WE OKAY, KID?
YEAH--WE'RE GOOD, SPACE GHOST...
NOTHING THAT CAN'T BE FIXED.
NEXT:
BLIP VERSUS THE CREATURE KING!

NEXT ISSUE

Our human heroes find themselves trapped on a mysterious jungle planet where they face The Creature King, who commands a host of beasts to do his nefarious bidding. In their most desperate hour of need, the team turns to the one member who can save them - Blip!

WRITER DECLAN SHALVEY DISCUSSES A YEAR OF THUNDERCATS AND WHAT'S NEXT!

Declan, we're coming in hot on a full year of your ThunderCats saga and the explosive revival of the franchise. How have you been feeling about how your stories have been unfolding? As well as the momentum of the title along the way.

DEC: Feeling pretty good considering how well the book is doing! Seriously though, it's been an amazing experience, from the initial enthusiasm, to the amazing initial sales, to the actual feedback from readers. Couldn't be happier with how things have gone. Currently, I'm having to switch things up as the original plan was to do a year-long reboot but with the sales momentum being so strong, we now have *at least* another year on the book, so the third arc I had been preparing to wrap the book up with has shifted dramatically, to setting up a whole new chapter in the story, not to mention expanding the 'Thunderverse.' Getting to cash in on stuff I'd previously set up, as well as creating new story pathways ...it's intimidating, but a challenge I'm relishing.

The series has featured many twists and turns along the way, with the introductions or reintroductions of characters and ideas like Snarf, Calica, Apex, and more. As well as some fun creative change-ups like issues featuring Stephen Mooney and Joe Mulvey. What can you tell us about what is being teed up for ThunderCats #11 and beyond?

DEC: Yes, I was happily surprised to see the great reaction to Calica, that was very rewarding. Introducing Apex has also been a bit of a game-changer. And while I was initially cautious about even having Snarf in the book at all, I was really happy with how we paced that reveal, it had way more emotional impact. And man, I get a kick out of seeing how Drew Moss draws him, he's not one of my favorite characters in our book.

Speaking of Drew, I feel like we found our groove straight away and I'm so glad we're getting to continue our partnership on the book. While this book is born of myself and Drew, it's also been great to be able to bring in guest creators, established names like Mooney, and newer people like Mulvey. It gives Drew a little breather from all the hard work he puts into the book, while giving the reader a fresh style to keep things interesting between story arcs.

In the next arc, we'll be centering back to Lion-O leading a team where I feel the readers are going to be really invested in. We've followed them all independently and will get to see them come together in a better and stronger way. Lion-O's connection to Calica and Apex will also be dealt with and finally, we will come to the end of our first year with a proper showdown with Mumm Ra *The Everliving*.

In particular, we're hearing through the vines that this issue might end up with a big showdown in some form between Lion-O and Mumm-Ra. Can you speak to that?

DEC: Yes, Lion-O ha been learning a lot of hard lessons since arriving on Third Earth. After having dealt with a couple of attacks on the ThunderCat's new home, Lion-O makes the decision to make a pre-emptive strike and takes the fight to Mumm Ra *alone*. It may not go the way he hopes.

From the start, your most key collaborator has of course been artist Drew Moss. How have you felt about what he's been bringing to the table, pulling your scripts onto the page, and how you two as a duo have evolved and honed things as the series has went on?

DEC: I've been fortunate to work with many great artists in the last few years. What makes Drew different is that he has a wonderful enthusiasm and dedication to us as a team on this book and goes above and beyond because of it. He is good at *everything*, be it mood, emotion, action, design, etv. The odd guest here and there is fun, but I'm very glad Drew has stayed with me on this book. I think without a doubt, he's made the ThunderCats his own, and he deserves so much credit for that. We really have found a great groove and getting to continue this book is a great opportunity to see how that collaboration evolves.

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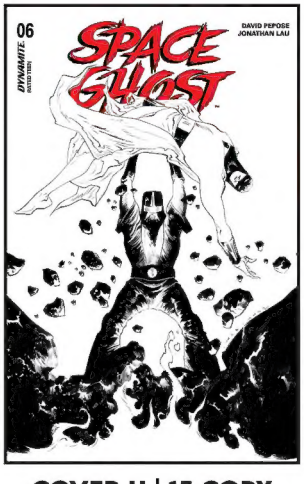

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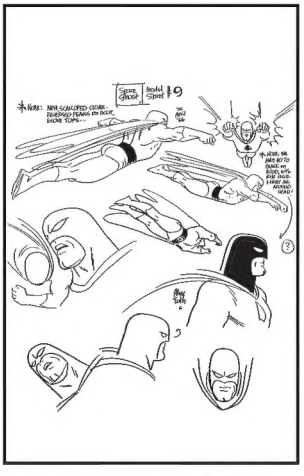

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